

**WEST****End of Result Set**

Generate Collection

L5: Entry 11 of 11

File: USPT

Feb 3, 1998

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5715402 A*of record*

TITLE: Method and system for matching sellers and buyers of spot metals

## DEPL:

This panel permits the Buyer to bid up to 10 units of the item based on an amount per unit weight or as a percentage of the asking price. In this example the asking price is \$0.2209 per pound. By cursoring to this field an amount may entered or by cursoring to the next field the entry of a percentage will automatically fill in the bid price. After a bid is entered for the specified number of units, PANEL #7 is updated with the total amount bid as shown in PANEL #9 below.

## CLPR:

5. The system defined in claim 4, wherein said bid may be entered directly or as a percentage of the asking price.

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US-PAT-NO: 5715402

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TITLE: Method and system for matching sellers and buyers of spot metals

DATE-ISSUED: February 3, 1998

## INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Popolo; Carl A.	Carlisle	MA	N/A	N/A

## ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Spot Metals Online	Bloomfield Hills	MI	N/A	N/A	02

APPL-NO: 8/ 554899

DATE FILED: November 9, 1995

INT-CL: [6] G06F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 395/237; 395/227

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/37

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 395/201, 395/226, 395/227, 395/237

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

Search ALL

	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4674044</u>	June 1987	Kalmus et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4677552</u>	June 1987	Sibley, Jr.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4799156</u>	January 1989	Shavit et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4903201</u>	February 1990	Wagner	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4992940</u>	February 1991	Dworkin	395/226
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5168446</u>	December 1992	Wiseman	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5283731</u>	February 1994	Lalonde et al.	395/201

ART-UNIT: 241

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Hayes; Gail O.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Yount; Steven R.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Brooks &amp; Kushman P.C.

## ABSTRACT:

A system for managing steel inventories in order to reduce the time and expense associated with selling prime and secondary steel that is no longer needed for the original intended application. The system permits sellers to post detailed specification of an item for sale and permits buyers to browse or search the posted inventory to locate items filling specific needs. A buyer may bid on part or all of an item posted and the seller may accept or reject any bid. The buyer and seller engage in an auction by electronic mail and optionally by facsimile. The detailed specifications of the item may be expressed in a variety of unit of measure. Regardless, of unit of measure used by a seller in posting an item, the system performs the necessary conversions to display information to an interested buyer in a unit of measure set by the buyer. A hierarchial menu structure permits ease of use in selecting available options during posting or bidding an item.

9 Claims, 9 Drawing figures

**WEST**

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L5: Entry 1 of 11

File: USPT

Jun 5, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6243691 B1

TITLE: Method and system for processing and transmitting electronic auction information

## DEPR:

The electronic auction system of the present invention preferably includes a "Proxy Bidding" feature that may be applied to any of the auction formats described above. FIG. 7 fully describes auction manager 26 including the Proxy Bidding feature. When Proxy Bidding is employed, a bidder places a bid for the maximum amount they are willing to pay. The electronic auction system, however, only displays the amount necessary to win the item up to the amount of the currently high proxy bids of other bidders. Typically, the currently high bids display an amount that is one bidding increment above the second highest bid or bids, although a percentage above the second highest bids may be used as well. When a new bidder places a bid that is above a currently displayed high bid, the proxy feature will, in general, cause the currently high bid to move up to an amount higher than the new bid, up to the maximum amount of the currently high bidder's proxy bid. Once a new bidder places a bid in excess of the currently high bidder's proxy bid, the new bid becomes the current high bid and the previous high bid becomes the second highest bid. This feature allows bidders to participate in the electronic auction without revealing to the other bidders the extent to which they are willing to increase their bids, while maintaining control of their maximum bid without closely monitoring the bidding. Participation is engaged in automatically on the bidder's behalf by the inventive system. The feature guarantees proxy bidders the lowest possible price up to a specified maximum without requiring frequent inquiries as to the state of the bidding.

**WEST**☐ Generate Collection

L5: Entry 1 of 11

File: USPT

Jun 5, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6243691

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6243691 B1

TITLE: Method and system for processing and transmitting electronic auction information

DATE-ISSUED: June 5, 2001

## INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Fisher; Alan S.	Fremont	CA	N/A	N/A
Kaplan; Samuel Jerrold	Hillsborough	CA	N/A	N/A

## ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

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Onsale, Inc.	Mountain View	CA	N/A	N/A	02

APPL-NO: 8/ 624259

DATE FILED: March 29, 1996

INT-CL: [7] G06F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/37; 705/26

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/37; 705/26

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 705/37, 705/26, 705/27, 705/39, 395/500, 364/578, 703/22

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

Search ALL

<input type="checkbox"/>	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>3581072</u>	May 1971	Nymeyer	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4677552</u>	June 1987	Sibley, Jr.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4789928</u>	December 1988	Fujisaki	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4903201</u>	February 1990	Wagner	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5063507</u>	November 1991	Lindsey et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5101353</u>	March 1992	Lupien et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5136501</u>	August 1992	Silverman et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5168446</u>	December 1992	Wiseman	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5243515</u>	September 1993	Lee	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5258908</u>	November 1993	Hartheimer et al.	N/A
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5394324</u>	February 1995	Clearwater	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5426281</u>	June 1995	Abecassis	N/A
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5553145</u>	September 1996	Micali	N/A
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5640569</u>	June 1997	Miller et al.	N/A
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5715402</u>	February 1998	Popolo	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5774873</u>	June 1998	Berent et al.	705/26
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5778367</u>	July 1998	Wesinger, Jr. et al.	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5794219</u>	August 1998	Brown	705/37
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FOREIGN-PAT-NO	PUBN-DATE	COUNTRY	US-CL
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9300266A	September 1994	NLX	
WO 92 15174	September 1992	WOX	
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WO 96 34356	October 1996	WOX	

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ART-UNIT: 273

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Stamber; Eric W.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Knox; Lonnie

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Tachner; Adam H. Crosby, Heafey, Roach &amp; May

## ABSTRACT:

A system and method for conducting a multi-person, interactive auction, in a variety of formats, without using a human auctioneer to conduct the auction. The system is preferably implemented in software. The system allows a group of bidders to interactively place bids over a computer or communications network. Those bids are recorded by the system and the bidders are updated with the current auction status information. When appropriate, the system closes the

auction from further bidding and notifies the winning bidders and losers as to the auction outcome.

100 Claims, 14 Drawing figures